
O D E
FOR THE
CENTENARY ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
GLORIOUS REVOLUTION,
M DC LXXXVIII.

BY
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Dîs amicum
Sæculo festas referente luces
Reddidi carmen.

H O R.

THE following Ode was sent by the Author to THOMAS BRAND HOLLIS, Esq; with a request that he would present it to the Meeting of the REVOLUTION SOCIETY at the LONDON TAVERN, on Tuesday the 4th of November, 1788, (at which Meeting the Author much wished to have been present) and where it was accordingly recited.

A few alterations have been made, principally in the Notes, which the Author hopes will not need an apology. —

—If the *Dîs amicum carmen*, in the motto, should seem to require any, the Author will reply to the objection in the words a celebrated poet,

“ The cause of Freedom is the cause of God.”



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R E V O L U T I O N.

TORN from the friends I love,
From those who celebrate the glorious day
 When freedom's friendly ray
On Britain's shore appear'd more bright,
And shed a kindly light,
After pale slavery's blackest night.

Torn

Torn from the friends whose purpose I approve,
To celebrate great William's natal day,
His landing on our shore,
Fair freedom to affirm,
And all the joys in liberty's great store
On Britain to confirm.

Torn from the friends, whose purpose I approve,
This tribute I resign
At Liberty's fair shrine,
To which with honour and with pride I move.

Now for a cent'ry's space,
Religion, Laws, and Liberty
Have hail'd Britannia free ;
Through many a changing race ;
A Nassau Glory, and the pride
Of this renowned day,
O'er subjects free maintain'd his sway,
Whilst law and justice did decide.

Ev'n

Ev'n a Stuart's impious name,
 In Anne was brook'd by honest shame,
 Who, though a brother she approv'd,
 Ne'er strove against the liberty she lov'd. *

 For this in yon illustrious plain, †
 Where Liberty's fair claim
 First rose triumphant o'er John's wicked reign,
 A column ‡ soon shall rear it's hallow'd head,
 In honour of the Patriot dead,
 Of Patriot Barons and a Patriot King,
 Whose bloodless || hands crown'd law's respectful name,
 And gain'd a Charter *truly great*,

(Whose

* Which she shewed (while Princess Anne) by resigning her claim to the throne during the life of William, in order to reconcile him to the acceptance of the crown.

† Runny-Mede.

‡ Alluding to the column to be erected by the Whig Club. The author approves much of this proposal, but thinks there should be two columns, one at Runny-Mede, the other at Torbay, where King William landed, erected in a stile of great magnificence, and with inscriptions suitable to the respective events which happened in those places.

|| It was intended to have introduced a stanza, comparing King William to the ancient heroes of liberty; but those cases were
not

(Whose praise the muse enamour'd dares to sing) .
 By liberty and rights § declar'd,
 A glorious way prepar'd,
 To reign, at length, for Brunswick's glorious race.

Oh

not thought so parallel to the Revolution as that of King John. Harmodius and Aristogeiton killed Hipparchus; Brutus embrued his dagger in the blood of Cæsar; and Cromwell beheaded the unfortunate Charles; but the revolutions we allude to were perfected without the blood of either of the degraded kings; for the dastard James ran away from the arms of William.

§ Magna Charta, and the Declaration of Rights, taken together, form the noblest altar that ever was raised to publick liberty: They are the principal *existing* instances of that social compact between Prince and People which the best philosophers and politicians have made the foundation of government. All the nations of Europe once had similar compacts, as, for instance, the celebrated Coronation Oath of the kings of Castile; but in Spain, in France, and other nations, every trace of these has been long obliterated; England alone has been blest by the continuance of them to the present time. The Declaration of Rights, it is true, is not so perfect as might have been wished: Frequent Parliaments should have been made more explicit, by the addition of either annual, or, at most, triennial; and the right of the subject to possess and bear arms has been greatly abridged by the Game Laws, which have been much enlarged during the present reign. Under a PATRIOT KING and a PATRIOT MINISTER it is to be hoped, it is even to be expected, that these grievances should be redressed. The author wishes that his present Majesty and his posterity may long govern this country, according to the principles of our happy constitution: Of that constitution he can only apply the celebrated, pious, and patriotic prayer of Father Paul, "ESTO PERPETUA."

Oh may a Brunswick's glorious race
Such bright examples ne'er disgrace :
May Liberty, Religion, Laws,
Find them their friends in every cause ;
May Popery's fordid reign

Or Superstition's gloomy power
Their freedom ne'er restrain,

Ne'er break their social hour :
But Liberty, serene and free,
Their guide, their guardian ever be,
And all his subjects, every hour,
Salute in George, a Nassau's genial power !

F I N I S.



